

Message Text

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TAGS: PFOR IN US OVIP (KISSINGER, HENRY A.)

SUBJECT: FOREIGN MINISTER'S TOAST TO THE SECRETARY OCTOBER 27

1. FOLLOWING IS THE PREPARED TEXT OF THE TOAST BY FOREIGN MINISTER Y.B. CHAVAN AT HIS DINNER FOR THE SECRETARY OCTOBER 27:

2. QUOTE ON BEHALF OF THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA, I HAVE GREAT PLEASURE TO EXTEND A WARM AND CORDIAL WELCOME TO YOU AND MRS. KISSINGER. I ENJOYED MEETING YOU IN WASHINGTON A FEW WEEKS AGO AND I AM INDEED HAPPY THAT YOU WERE ABLE TO PAY US AN OFFICIAL VISIT AND PROVIDE AN OPPORTUNITY TO EXCHANGE VIEWS ON IMPORTANT INTERNATIONAL PROBLEMS AND MATTERS OF BILATERAL INTEREST.

INDIA AND THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA ARE BOTH DEMOCRATIC COUNTRIES WITH WELL ESTABLISHED TRADITIONS OF REPRESENTATIVE GOVERNMENT, SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY AND INDIVIDUAL FREEDOM. WE HAVE ADMIRERD THIS CREATIVE GENIUS OF THE AMERICAN PEOPLE AND THEIR CONTRIBUTION TO HUMAN PROGRESS. WE ARE CONFIDENT THAT OUR TWO COUNTRIES CAN WORK TOGETHER TO CREATE A BETTER WORLD IN WHICH MEN AND WOMEN CAN REALISE THEIR POTENTIAL BOTH AS INDIVIDUALS AND USEFUL CITIZENS AND CONTRIBUTE TO THE DEVELOPMENT OF SOCIETY AND WELFARE OF MANKIND. IT IS ALSO A UNIQUE FEATURE OF OUR RELATIONS THAT, IN SPITE OF

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OCCASIONAL DIFFERENCES, WE HAVE BEEN ABLE TO MAINTAIN

DIALOGUE AND CONTACT AT ALL TIMES AND AT ALL LEVELS. THIS PROVIDES A GOOD BASIS FOR OUR WORKING TOGETHER IN THE FUTURE ALSO TO PROMOTE MUTUAL UNDERSTANDING, INTERNATIONAL PEACE AND PROGRESS.

MR. SECRETARY, SINCE YOUR LAST VISIT TO NEW DELHI, FAR REACHING CHANGES HAVE TAKEN PLACE IN THIS REGION. OUT OF THE AGONY OF THE SUB-CONTINENT, A NEW NATION WAS BORN, UNDERLINING A HISTORICAL TRUTH THAT POPULAR ASPIRATIONS CANNOT BE LONG SUPPRESSED. ON THE BASIS OF THE REALITIES OF THE SITUATION, WE HAVE BEEN TRYING TO BUILD A NEW STRUCTURE OF PEACE, FRIENDSHIP AND COOPERATION IN THIS REGION. WE NOTE THAT YOUR OWN COUNTRY SHARE THIS VIEW AND HAS SUPPORTED THE SIMLA PROCESS OF BILATERAL AND PEACEFUL NORMALIZATION AND RECONCILIATION WITHOUT EXTERNAL INTERFERENCE. IT NEED HARDLY BE STRESSED THAT PEACE IS PARTICULARLY ESSENTIAL TO US AND OTHER COUNTRIES OF THE REGION TO MEET THE CHALLENGE OF ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL GROWTH. WE ARE FULLY CONSCIOUS OF OUR RESPONSIBILITIES AND OF THE NEED TO BUILD FRIENDSHIP AND COOPERATION WITH OUR NEIGHBOURS. WE HAVE ACHIEVED THIS OBJECTIVE IN OUR RELATIONS WITH MOST OF OUR NEIGHBOURS AND HOPE TO DO THE SAME WITH THE REMAINING ONE OR TWO GOVERNMENTS.

INDO-AMERICAN RELATIONS HAVE IMPROVED IN THE LAST YEAR OR TWO. ALTHOUGH IT WOULD BE IDLE TO PRETEND THAT THERE ARE NO DIFFERENCES BETWEEN US, WE BOTH RECOGNISE THE NEED FOR BUILDING UP A MATURE AND CONSTRUCTIVE RELATIONSHIP ON THE BASIS OF EQUALITY, MUTUAL RESPECT AND MUTUAL BENEFIT. THERE IS POTENTIAL FOR STRENGTHENING OUR RELATIONS AND WE LOOK FORWARD TO OUR DISCUSSIONS WITH YOU ON WAYS AND MEANS OF FURTHERING INDO-AMERICAN UNDERSTANDING. IN TODAY'S WORLD, NO COUNTRY CAN REMAIN ISOLATED OR BECOME TOTALLY SELF SUFFICIENT IN ALL ITS REQUIREMENTS. WE ARE INTERESTED IN PROMOTING COOPERATION BETWEEN INDIA AND AMERICA IN VARIOUS FIELDS INCLUDING TRADE, SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY, EDUCATION AND CULTURE. I AM CONFIDENT THAT OUR DISCUSSIONS WILL ENABLE US NOT ONLY TO REMOVE PAST MISUNDERSTANDINGS BUT ALSO GENERATE MOMENTUM FOR A BETTER, MORE MATURE AND REALISTIC RELATIONSHIP IN THE MONTHS AND YEARS AHEAD.

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MR. SECRETARY, YOU ARE NOT A NEW COMER TO INDIA. HOWEVER, SINCE THIS IS MRS. KISSINGER'S FIRST VISIT TO OUR COUNTRY, MAY I WISH HER A CORDIAL WELCOME AND A MOST PLEASANT STAY HERE. IN DRAWING UP YOUR PROGRAMME, WE HAVE TAKEN PARTICULAR CARE TO ENSURE THAT YOU, MRS. KISSINGER, HAVE SOME OPPORTUNITY TO SEE A BIT OF INDIA. WE HOPE YOU WILL COME AGAIN AND SEE MORE OF OUR COUNTRY. AND, WE HOPE,

YOU MR. SECRETARY WOULD ALSO COME WITH HER. UNQUOTE.
MOYNIHAN

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